

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 EUR-25 AF-10 DRC-01 /155 W

----- 121471

R 021120Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1389

INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PK, AF

SUBJ: GHAFAR KHAN CONFINED TO FRONTIER PROVINCE

REF: STATE 194118 (NOTAL); ISLAMABAD 8496 (NOTAL).

1. FORMER RED SHIRT LEADER AND FATHER OF WALI KHAN, ABDUL GHAFAR KHAN, WAS REMOVED BY POLICE FROM A TRAIN IN MULTAN DESTINED FOR BALUCHISTAN SEPTEMBER 30 AND "ESCORTED" BACK TO FRONTIER PROVINCE ACCORDING TO A PRESS STATEMENT BY NWFP GOVERNOR KHATTAK. TRAVELING WITH GHAFAR KHAN WERE FORMER NWFP GOVERNOR SIKANDER AND FORMER NAP MINISTER AMIRZADA KHAN. GOVERNOR KHATTAK CLAIMED THAT GHAFAR KHAN'S PRESENCE IN BALUCHISTAN MIGHT LEAD TO "MISUNDERSTANDINGS" AND CREATE TROUBLE AND THAT HE WOULD BE CONFINED TO HIS PROVINCE "SO LONG AS IT WAS NECESSARY". FEDERAL INTERIOR MINISTER (AND LONG TIME NAP BETE NOIR) QAYYUM KHAN CLAIMED THE ACTION WAS A PROVINCIAL ONE, DISCLAIMING ANY FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY (OR EVEN FOREKNOWLEDGE). KHATTAK'S STATEMENT ALSO

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DEPLORED POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS AND SPECULATED THAT

WALI KHAN HAD BEEN TARGET OF LOCAL FEUDS OR OUTLAWS, PRESUMABLY IN EFFORT TO DISASSOCIATE PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS FROM RECENT ATTACK ON WALI (ISLAMABAD 8476).

2. IN SPEECH IN MULTAN OCTOBER 1, PRESS REPORTS THAT SIKANDER SAID HE FOUND "NOTHING OBJECTABLE" IN AFGHAN DELEGATE PAZHWAQ'S SPEECH AT ALIGERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE (ISLAMABAD 7649) AS HE "SLATED ATTEMPTS TO CREATE ANOTHER BANGLADESH IN PAKISTAN AND ADVOCATED DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS BE GIVEN PATHANS AND BALUCHIS", "WHICH WE (NAP) HAVE BEEN SAYING ALL ALONG".

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: CONFINEMENT OF GHAFAR KHAN TO FRONTIER PROVINCE INDICATIVE GOP NERVOUSNESS OVER SITUATION IN BALUCHISTAN AND ITS RELATIONS WITH AFGHANISTAN. AS IN CASE OF ARRESTED BALUCHISTAN NAP LEADERS, GOP LET PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TAKE THE RAP, PERHAPS TO LEAVE DOOR OPEN TO NEGOTIATIONS AT NATIONAL LEVEL.SANDERHOFF

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